UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/550,348	04/14/2000	Anand Rangarajan	P3919	8679

24739	7590	10/05/2005		

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EXAMINER
CAMPBELL, JOSHUA D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/550,348	RANGARAJAN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Joshua D. Campbell	2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 July 2005</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-17 and 19</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-17 and 19</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Request for continued examination filed on 07/27/2005.

2.   Claims 1-17 and 19 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 9, 15, and 19 are independent claims. Claims 1, 9, 15, and 19 have been amended.

3.   The rejection of claims 1-6, 15-16, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed on March 31, 1998) in view of Gupta et al. (US Patent Number 6,199,079, filed March 20, 1998) has been withdrawn due to amendments.

4.   The rejection of claims 7, 9-12, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed March 31, 1998) in view of Gupta et al. (hereinafter Gupta, US Patent Number 6,199,079, filed March 20, 1998) as applied to claims 1 and 3 above, and further in view of Jacobs et al. (US Patent Number 5,611,048, issued on March 11, 1997) has been withdrawn due to amendments.

5.   The rejection of claims 8, 13, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed March 31, 1998) in view of Gupta et al. (hereinafter Gupta, US Patent Number 6,199,079, filed March 20, 1998) as applied to claims 1, 3, 9, 10, and 15 above, and further in view of Kraft et al. (US Patent Number 6,084,585, with US filing date of December 5, 1997) has been withdrawn due to amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

6.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-8 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims are non-statutory because a "software application" is non-statutory subject matter unless it is presented in a way as to be executable on a computer system via a tangible embodiment. The examiner suggests the amended phrase, "A software application tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium..." in order to overcome the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

8.   Claims 1-6, 15-16, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed on March 31, 1998) in view of Burson et al. (hereinafter Burson, US Patent Number 6,405,245, US filing date of October 28, 1998).

Regarding independent claim 1, Light discloses a method in which a form recognition unit detects properties about a form and a website containing a form (column 2, line 63-column 3, line 47 of Light). A matching unit then decides what data

should be place in the form and at what locations, at which point the data and

instructions on what to do with it (job order) is sent to the fill-in unit (column 3, line 48-

column 4, line 30 of Light). The job order is an instruction that is executable by the fill-in

unit and the instruction includes data necessary to navigate to and register (fill-in the

form) to a site, which could include information such as an authentication password

(column 3, line 30-column 4, line 30). The fill-in unit then submits the data into the form

and ultimately submits the form to the host (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of

Light). Then, any new form information necessary for the site is added to the database

containing a user's form data (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light). Light does not disclose a

method in which user notification is returned to the user that includes the result of the

form submission and registration attempt, including registration status and

authentication data.

However, Burson discloses a method in which a user notification is returned from

PI engine, which includes the results of the form submission and registration status and

authentication data (column 8, line 1-column 9, line 17 of Burson). It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have

combined the method of Light with the method of Burson because it would have allowed

the user to track transaction results with all sites.

Regarding dependent claims 2-4, Light discloses a method in which forms are

found on web pages on the Web (Internet) (column 1, lines 7-40 of Light).

Regarding dependent claim 5, Light discloses a method in which forms are

filled out with information such as credit card numbers to pay for a service (Figure 6 and

column 3, lines 5-59 of Light).

Regarding dependent claim 6, Light discloses a method in which the form-filling

process is completely controlled by a single networked system (server) (Figure 3 and

column 2, line 53-column 3, line 47 of Light).

Regarding independent claim 15, the claim incorporates substantially similar

subject matter as claim 1. Thus the claim is rejected along the same rationale as claim

1.

Regarding dependent claim 16, the claim incorporates substantially similar

subject matter as claims 2-4. Thus, the claim is rejected along the same rationale as

claims 2-4.

Regarding independent claim 19, Light discloses a method in which a form

recognition unit detects properties about a form and a website containing a form

(column 2, line 63-column 3, line 47 of Light). A matching unit then decides what data

should be place in the form and at what locations, at which point the data and

instructions on what to do with it (job order) is sent to the fill-in unit (column 3, line 48-

column 4, line 30 of Light). The job order is an instruction that is executable by the fill-in

unit and the instruction includes data necessary to navigate to and register (fill-in the

form) to a site, which could include information such as an authentication password

(column 3, line 30-column 4, line 30). The fill-in unit then submits the data into the form

and ultimately submits the form to the host (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of

Light). Then, any new form information necessary for the site is added to the database containing a user's form data (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light). Light discloses a method in which the system stores new form information obtained from a site once the form filling process is complete (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light). Light does not disclose a method in which user notification is returned to the user that includes the result of the form submission and registration attempt, including registration status and authentication data.

However, Burson discloses a method in which a user notification is returned from PI engine, which includes the results of the form submission and registration status and authentication data (column 8, line 1-column 9, line 17 of Burson). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the method of Light with the method of Burson because it would have allowed the user to track transaction results with all sites.

9.   Claim 7, 9-12, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed March 31, 1998) in view of Burson et al. (hereinafter Burson, US Patent Number 6,405,245, US filing date of October 28, 1998) as applied to claims 1 and 3 above, and further in view of Jacobs et al. (US Patent Number 5,611,048, issued on March 11, 1997).

Regarding dependent claim 7, neither Light nor Burson disclose a method of distributing software functions over a plurality of server nodes. However, Jacobs et al. discloses that functions to be performed on a server can be divided across multiple

servers (column 4, lines 9-17 of Jacobs et al.). It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the

methods of Light and Burson with the method of Jacobs et al. because it would have

optimized the efficiency of the method of Light by splitting the workloads among multiple

servers.

Regarding independent claim 9, Light discloses a method in which a form

recognition unit detects properties about a form and a website containing a form

(column 2, line 63-column 3, line 47 of Light). A matching unit then decides what data

should be place in the form and at what locations, at which point the data and

instructions on what to do with it (job order) is sent to the fill-in unit (column 3, line 48-

column 4, line 30 of Light). The job order is an instruction that is executable by the fill-in

unit and the instruction includes data necessary to navigate to and register (fill-in the

form) to a site, which could include information such as an authentication password

(column 3, line 30-column 4, line 30). The fill-in unit then submits the data into the form

and ultimately submits the form to the host (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of

Light). Then, any new form information necessary for the site is added to the database

containing a user's form data (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light). Light does not disclose a

method in which user notification is returned to the user that includes the result of the

form submission and registration attempt, including registration status and

authentication data.

However, Burson discloses a method in which a user notification is returned from

PI engine, which includes the results of the form submission and registration status and

authentication data (column 8, line 1-column 9, line 17 of Burson). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the method of Light with the method of Burson because it would have allowed the user to track transaction results with all sites. Neither Light nor Burson disclose a method of performing the functions using a server for each function.

However, Jacobs et al. discloses that functions to be performed on a server can be divided across multiple servers (column 4, lines 9-17 of Jacobs et al.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Light and Burson with the method of Jacobs et al. because it would have optimized the efficiency of the method of Light by splitting the workloads among multiple servers.

Regarding dependent claims 10-12, the claims incorporate similar subject matter as claims 2-4. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 2-4.

Regarding dependent claim 14, neither Light nor Burson disclose a method of distributing software functions over a plurality of server nodes, which are connected to each other via a dedicated data network. However, Jacobs et al. discloses that functions to be performed on a server can be divided across multiple servers that are connected to each other via a local area network (column 4, lines 9-17 of Jacobs et al.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Light and Burson with the method of

Jacobs et al. because it would have optimized the efficiency of the method of Light by
splitting the workloads among multiple servers.

10.   Claims 8, 13, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable
over Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed March 31, 1998)
in view of Burson et al. (hereinafter Burson, US Patent Number 6,405,245, US filing
date of October 28, 1998) as applied to claims 1, 3, 9, 10, and 15 above, and further in
view of Kraft et al. (US Patent Number 6,084,585, with US filing date of December 5,
1997).

Regarding dependent claims 8, 13, and 17, neither Light nor Burson disclose a
method in which the job order is written in XML. However, Kraft et al. discloses that
executable instructions which can be thought of as job orders can be written in any
programming language including XML (column 3, lines 35-40 of Kraft et al.). It would
have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made
to have combined the methods of Light and Burson with the method of Kraft et al.
because the use of different programming languages was interchangeable.

Response to Arguments

11.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-17 and 19 have been considered
but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The arguments are in reference
to the features newly rejected in view of the Burson et al. reference, thus the new
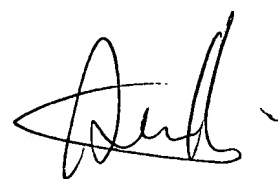rejection overcomes the arguments and amendment.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D. Campbell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4133. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30 AM - 4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JDC
September 22, 2005

STEPHEN HONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER